

## Message Text

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62

ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SNM-02 H-02 PRS-01 RSC-01 /035 R

DRAFTED BY L/ EUR: JCROOK: LLA

3/13/73 - EXT. 21217

APPROVED BY EUR/ WE - MR. VINE

EUR/ WE - MR. BEIGEL

S/ NM - MR. WEISS

H -

----- 055881

R 142153 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS STATE 047203

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PGOV, SNAR

SUBJECT: DEFAMATION PROCEEDING AGAINST CONGRESSMEN STEELE  
AND MURPHY

1. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM CONGRESSMAN MURPHY REQUESTING INFORMATION REGARDING DEFAMATION PROCEEDING WHICH HE RECENTLY LEARNED HAD BEEN BROUGHT AGAINST CONGRESSMEN MURPHY AND STEELE BY MARCEL FRANCISCI IN OCTOBER 1971. DEPARTMENT NOT HERETOFORE AWARE OF THIS CASE.

2. ACCORDING TO MURPHY LETTER, DEFAMATION PROCEEDING INSTITUTED ON BASIS OF STATEMENTS IN MURPHY- STEELE " WORLD HEROIN REPORT" PUBLISHED MAY 1971 AS HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE PRINT, LINKING MARCEL FRANCISCI TO NARCOTICS TRAFFIC IN MARSEILLE. PROCEEDING MAY BE A CRIMINAL PROCEEDING INSTITUTED UNDER ARTICLES 29-32 OF THE LAW OF THE PRESS OF THE FRENCH PENAL CODE.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION EMBASSY COULD OBTAIN AS TO THIS CASE. PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN NATURE OF CHARGE, STATUS OF PROCEEDINGS, POSSIBLE PENALTIES, AND LIKELY DISPOSITION OF CASE BY FRENCH AUTHORITIES.  
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ROGERS

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 14 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14-Aug-2001 by maustmc>; APPROVED <27 FEB 2002 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
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EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Subject:** DEFAMATION PROCEEDING AGAINST CONGRESSMEN STEELE AND MURPHY  
**TAGS:** PGOV, SNAR  
**To:** PARIS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005